

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-4 and 6-49 are now pending in this application. New claims 26-49 are added by this amendment. Each of the pending claims is believed to define an invention that is novel and unobvious over the cited references. Favorable reconsideration of this case is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 7-9, 11, 12, 15, 16 and 18-22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Bert further in view of Kaplan.

Claims 5, 6, 10, 13 and 14 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporated the subject matter of allowable claim 5.

New independent claim 26 includes the subject matter of allowable claim 10 and its base claim.

New independent claim 35 includes the subject matter of allowable claim 13 and its base claim.

New independent claim 43 includes the subject matter of claim 14 and its base claim.

Independent claim 23 has been allowed.

The remaining dependent claims depend from allowable base claims are allowable for at least the same reasons.

Claim 7 has been amended into independent form and additionally recites that the excess charge is separated from the remaining signal charge before the remaining signal charge is applied to the multiplication register. Support for this amendment can be found in the present specification,

for example, at paragraph 15. Figure 2 illustrates an exemplary embodiment of the invention of independent claim 7. As shown in Figure 2, the excess charge is separated upstream of the multiplication register. The amendment to claim 7 further clarifies this distinction over the cited art. For example, such "serial splitting" is not disclosed in the Kaplan reference. In Kaplan, the splitting is due to the barrier 22 and occurs in parallel, please see column 4, lines 33-39 and Figure 3 of Kaplan. Accordingly, one of ordinary skill in the art would not modify the cited references to arrive at the claimed invention. Therefore, the withdrawal of the above-rejection is respectfully requested.

It is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are in allowable form. Early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner is of the opinion that the prosecution of this application would be advanced by a personal interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee necessitated by this Amendment to our Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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